

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 AEC-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-01 INR-05

INT-05 L-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 RSC-01 SAM-01

OES-02 SP-02 SS-15 STR-01 TRSE-00 FRB-01 /072 W

----- 071939

R 011030Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3226

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STOCKHOLM 4851

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, SW

SUBJECT: SWEDEN PREPARES TO JOIN INTEGRATED ENERGY PROGRAM (IEP)

REF: STOCKHOLM 4798

1. SUMMARY. GOS APPEARS TO BE PREPARING THE PUBLIC FOR ITS EVENTUAL JOINING OF THE IEP, ALTHOUGH STILL KEEPING ITS OPTIONS OPEN. PRESS REPORTS OCTOBER 31 STATE GOS PLANS TO JOIN IEP BUT WILL, AT SAME STIME, ISSUE IN SWEDEN A UNILATERAL STATEMENT ON ITS NEUTRALITY. REPORTS ALSO SAY DAVIGNON INFORMED SWEDISH MFA THIS PROCEDURE WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO ENERGY COORDINATING GROUP (ECG). FORMAL DECISION PROBABLY WILL BE MADE DURING CABINET MEETING TENTATIVELY SCHEDULEDFOR NEXT WEEK. END SUMMARY.

2. FLURRY OF ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT AND IN THE  
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PRESS SUGGESTS GOS IS PREPARING THE PUBLIC FOR A FAVORABLE

DECISION ON PARTICIPATION IN THE IEP. THE CABINET MEETING OF OCTOBER 28 ENDED WITHOUT A DECISION AND ANOTHER IS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR NEXT WEEK PRIOR TO NOV. 8 DEAD-LINE FOR SWEDISH DECISION TO BE GIVEN TO IEP GROUP.

3. AT OCT. 29 MEETING IN STOCKHOLM OF REPRESENTATIVES OF AUSTRIA, SWEDEN AND SWITZERLAND THERE WAS DISCUSSION OF LEGAL DIFFERENCES C NEUTRALITY OF EACH COUNTRY, BUT MFA SOURCE SAID THERE WERE NO SUBSTANTIVE DIFFERENCES REGARDING NEUTRALITY AND IEP. FOLLOWING MEETING MFA OFFICIALS (EWERLOF AND A. EDELSTAM) FLEW TO BRUSSELS TO MEET WITH DAVIGNON. PRESS REPORTS OCT 31 STATE THAT UNDERSTANDING HAS BEEN REACHED WHEREBY SWEDEN WILL ISSUE UNILATERALLY A STATEMENT ON ITS NEUTRALITY POSITION AND, FURTHER, THAT DAVIGNON HAD GIVEN HIS APPROVAL FOCTHIS FORMAT FOR SWEDISH PARTICIPATION IN IEP. TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED ALSO FOR NOV. 4. IS A MEETING OF THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COUNCIL CONSISTING OF LEADERS OF GOVERNEMTN AND POLITICAL PARTIES TO DISCUSS SWEDISH PARTICIPATION IN IEP.

4. THOUGH NOT DIRECTLY RELATED, A 16-MEMBER NORWEGIAN STANDING COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS AND CONSTITUTION DISCUSSED ENERGY MATTERS WITH SWEDISH OFFICIALS ON OCT 30. COMMERCE MINISTER KJELL-OLOF FELDT'S COMMENTSON THE ENERGY DISCUSSIONS WAS CHARACTERIZED BY THE PRESS AS A GAME OF "POKER", WITH THE SWEDES NOT WISHING TO ASK FOR PETROLEUM SUPPLIES FOR THE FUTURE AND THE NORWEGIANS NOT OFFERING TO SUPPLY WITHOUT A REQUEST IN HAND. THE INFERENCE WAS THAT BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH NORWAY ON ENERGY SUPPLIES WERE NOT TIMELY IN VIEW OF ON-GOING DISCUSSIONS FOR PARTICIPATION IN IEP.

5. AS PRIMARY SPOKESMAN ON ISSUE FOR THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATS COMMERCE MINISTER, IN INTERVIEWS WITH THE PRESS, HAS STATED FLATLY THAT SWEDISH DEPENDENCE ON PETROLEUM IMPORTS IS A FACT, AND SOME ARRANGEMENT TO MEET EMERGENCIES MUST BE WORKED OUT. ON NEUTRALITY, ALTHOUGH RECOGNIZING ITS EXTREME IMPORTANCE, FELDT HAS SAID THAT IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY, NOT TO HAVE JOINED THE IEP COULD BE OF EQUAL DANGER TO SWEDISH NEUTRALITY.

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6. FINANCE MINISTER GUNNAR STRANG, A STALWART IN THE QRTY, REPORTEDLY CONTINUES TO HAVE RESERVATIONS, BUT HE HAS MUTED HIS ALLEGED POSITION OF OPPOSITION WITH A STATEMENT THAT "HE HAS NEVER SAID NO TO PARTICIPATION". THE CENTER PARTY CHAIRMAN FALLDIN, DESPITE SOME OPPOSITION IN HIS PARTY, STATED TO THE PRESS THAT HE COULD GO ALONG WITH PARTICIPATION, PROVIDED A SUITABLE NEUTRALITY CLAUSE CAN

BE OBTAINED. ATTITUDES OF YOUTH GROUPS, WHICH TEND TO BE MORE SENSITIVE ON THE ISSUE OF SWEDISH NEUTRALITY,SO FAR HAVE RECEIVED LITTLE OR NO PRESS ATTENTION.

7. WHETHER THE FORMAT CALLING FOR A UNILATERAL NEUTRALITY STATEMENT SEPARATE FROM IEP PARTICIPATION WOULD SATISFY ALL SWEDISH POLITICAL REQUIREMENTS CANNOT BE PREDICTED WITH CERTAINTY AT THIS TIME. HOWEVER, IF AUSTRIA AND SWITZERLAND SHOULD JOIN AT THE SAME TIME, AS SWEDES HAVE BEEN SUGGESTING, THIS DEVELOPMENT WOULD ASSIST SWEDISH GOVERNMENT IN RESPONDING TO CRITICS WITHIN SWEDEN. INFORMATION OBTAINEDFROM MFA SOURCE INDICATES GOVERNMENT SATISFIED THAT JOINING IEP IS, TECHNICALLY AT LEAST, NOT CONTRARY TO "NEUTRALITY".  
STRAUSZ-HUPE

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## Message Attributes

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